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EASTERN EUROPEAN INTELLIGENCER

18 June 1968

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Warsaw Pact Exercise Imminent

Soviet Marshal Yakubovskiy, commander-in-chief of the Warsaw Pact, arrived in Czechoslovakia today, which suggests that the beginning of the long-awaited Pact exercise is imminent. Yakubovskiy will be supreme commander for the exercise.

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Earlier statements by Czechoslovak spokesmen which implied or explicitly mentioned that the East Germans would not participate in the exercise have been contradicted by Yakubovskiy in an interview with Rude Pravo. According to the 18 June TASS version of the interview the Soviet Marshal stated that "commanders and staffs of all arms of the services of Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland, the GDR, and the USSR" will participate. He added that the training will take place on the territories of Czechoslovakia, Poland, the GDR, and the Soviet Union. As late as 12 June, Czechoslovak Deputy Defense Minister Stangl stated that "neither German units nor German staffs are participating in the exercises." These contradictions underscore the ad hoc nature of the planning for this exercise, but also suggest that Moscow may have pressured Prague on German participation.

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Czechoslovak Party Congress Preparations

The presidium of the Czechoslovak party on 11 June created working groups to prepare for the 14th extraordinary party congress in September.

The groups are to report by the end of July with a platform, basic texts of reports, draft resolutions, decisions, and other documents. During the latter part of August a central group will be formed to go over these reports and to attend preparatory meetings at lower levels.

Dubcek will head the working group on party affairs since the 13th congress, Cernik the group on the constitution and new political system, and, Indra the group on preparation of new party statutes and organization.

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Czechoslovak Foreign Minister Visits East Berlin

On his arrival in East Berlin, Foreign Minister Hajek and his East German counterpart, Otto Winzer, informed a Radio Prague correspondent on 17 June that they will tour a cloudy horizon, so to speak, during Hajek's short visit.

Neither Hajek nor Winzer would specify which topics will be discussed during their meetings, but Hajek did state that the recent exchange of press polemics probably will not be discussed. Making no attempt to hide the fact that relations between Pankow and Prague are not good, Winzer said that the ministers of the two countries have "many problems on the agenda"; Hajek affirmed that the two do not have a "catalog," but there will be a general review of problems. The Radio Prague correspondent suggested, somewhat tongue-in-cheekish, that the "latest events connected with the German issue will also be discussed." Czechoslovak news media were also quick to point out that the East Germans buried the news of Hajek's arrival, and implied that this press treatment amounted to a deliberate snub.

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High Level Soviet Party Delegation Arrives in Yugoslavia

Central committee secretary Ivan Kapitonov arrived in Belgrade on 17 June at the head of a high-ranking CPSU delegation. The Yugoslavs reportedly have long sought such a visit, but it takes place at a time of increasing friction

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between Belgrade and Moscow. The Yugoslav regime is nettled by Soviet press treatment of the Belgrade student riots, opposes the convening of a world communist conference, and strongly supports the new regime in Prague.

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New Hungarian Ambassador to US

Hungary has requested agreement for Janos Nagy as the first ambassador-designate to the US since the Communists took power.

Nagy is a 40 year-old career diplomat, who served in Washington from 1955 to 1956 as counselor and later as Chargé d'affaires ad interim of the Hungarian Legation. He has served as ambassador to Indonesia and to India, and between tours headed the Foreign Ministry's Asian and Press Departments. He speaks excellent English.

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Pole Gets Death Sentence in Spy Trial

Adam Henryk Kaczmarzyk, a 28-year old Polish citizen was sentenced to death on 15 June following a four day trial in Warsaw, mostly behind closed doors. Kaczmarzyk was charged with selling military secrets to the British, and collecting information about the Polish army's "moral and political status" during the Middle East crisis of last year. Kaczmarzyk, who has been under arrest since last August.

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The death sentence, the second imposed in a spy trial this year, can be appealed to the military chamber of the Polish Supreme Court, but it is unlikely that Kaczmarzyk's appeal will be successful in the current atmosphere of domestic witchhunting and political turmoil in Poland. A similar appeal by Jerzy Strawa, who was sentenced to death last January for selling military information to US-West German services, was turned down, and Strawa has been executed.

The trial has been the subject of numerous press commentaries, mainly excoriating British, but by extension also other Western, diplomats in Poland for their "brutal

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violation of diplomatic statutes."

French Naval Visit to Yugoslavia

A French naval detachment visited the Yugoslav base on Kotor Bay from 11 to 15 June. The Yugoslavs undoubtedly publicized the event to balance the extended visit of a Soviet naval force to Kotor in late April and early May.

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NOTE: THE VIEWS EXPRESSED ABOVE REPRESENT
ONLY THE ANALYSIS OF THE EE DIVISION

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